AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing steel for chroming, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a steel strip having a first predetermined thickness;

cold rolling ~~a strip of steel~~ **the strip** into a blank using an electron beam textured roller to a second predetermined thickness; and

coating the blank with Nickel and ~~chrome~~ **then Chromium**.

2. (Original) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 1 wherein the step of cold rolling results in a strip surface finish of approximately 0.7 to 1.2 micrometers with a nominal roughness of 0.9 micrometers.

3. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 1 wherein the ~~cold rolling process~~ **the step of cold rolling** is performed by a tandem mill and a temper mill.

4. (Original) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 3 wherein the tandem mill is a four-high four stand cold reduction mill.

5. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 4 wherein the tandem mill ~~rolls~~ and the temper mill ~~rolls are~~ **include rolls** texturized with an electron beam.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing steel for chroming, the method comprising the steps of:

heating a strip of steel;

rolling the strip to a **first** predetermined thickness;

spraying the strip of steel with water;

immersing the strip in a descaling compound;

cleaning the strip; drying the strip;

cold rolling the strip into a blank using an electron beam textured roller to a second predetermined thickness; and

coating the blank with Nickel and ~~chrome~~ **Chromium**.

7. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming defined in claim 6, wherein a tandem mill performs the step of rolling the strip to ~~a~~ **the first** predetermined thickness.

8. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 6, wherein the strips are heated **to** a temperature of approximately 2275 degrees Fahrenheit.

9. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 6, wherein the strips are rolled to a nominal thickness of ~~9 and 4 inches~~ **about 9.25 inches**.

10. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 6 wherein ~~the strip is immersed~~ **the step of immersing the strip includes immersing the strip** in one of a sulphuric acid or a hydrochloric acid.

11. (Original) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 6 wherein the step of cold rolling results in a strip surface finish of approximately 0.7 to 1.2 micrometers with a nominal roughness of 0.9 micrometers.

12. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 6 wherein the **step of** cold rolling **the strip into a blank** ~~process~~ is performed first by a tandem mill and second by a temper mill.

13. (Original) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 12 wherein the tandem mill is a four-high four stand cold reduction mill.

14. (Currently Amended) The method for preparing steel for chroming as defined in claim 12 wherein the tandem mill ~~rolls are texturized with an electron beam~~ **includes the electron beam textured roller**.

15. (New) A method of forming a chromed steel bumper comprising the steps of:

heating a strip of steel;

rolling the strip to a first predetermined thickness using an electron beam textured roller;

spraying the strip with water;

immersing the strip in a descaling compound;

cleaning the strip;

drying the strip;

cold rolling the strip using an electron beam textured roller to a second predetermined thickness;

annealing the strip;

forming the strip into a bumper;

coating the bumper with Nickel and Chromium.